

ELK GROVE **COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

Fire Emergency Medical Services Parks & Recreation

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

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ELK GROVE FIREFIGHTER CADETS TO START ACADEMY TRAINING

Elk Grove, CA -- Eighteen new recruits will begin their Elk Grove firefighting careers this week with the start of the Elk Grove Community Services District (CSD) Fire Department's third training academy. Twelve firefighter/paramedics and six firefighter candidates were selected in June from a group of more than 300 applicants.

The new academy class consists of 18 cadets – 17 men and one woman. Five cadets are former participants of the Department's Firefighter Internship Program – a career development and diversity program managed in partnership with Cosumnes River College.

"Most of the cadets already possess the skills and abilities to perform effectively as firefighters," said Fire Chief Keith Grueneberg. "Some of our new firefighter/paramedics come to us from private ambulance companies and we will be working with them and the other cadets to refine and enhance their basic firefighting skills. The cadets will also receive lessons on the policies, procedures, and customer service philosophies associated with this Department and the specific needs of the Elk Grove community."

During the four month academy, cadets will receive classroom instruction, participate in daily fitness training and perform in "live fire" training exercises at the District's new fire training facility. Upon graduation from the academy, cadets will assume active duty as probationary firefighters. Working side by side with seasoned Department personnel, new employees will be assigned to work at one of six fire stations within the District.

The hiring of these additional firefighter personnel facilitates the addition of a separately staffed truck company at Fire Station 74 on Laguna Park Drive scheduled to begin in January.

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